

News Letter

March 2008

Village of Lyons

212 Water Street, Lyons, MI 48851
villageoflyons@lyonsvillage.org

Welcome to the Village

The Lyons Village Council is happy to announce we have hired Mary Kay Robinson to the position of Village Treasurer. Mary Kay has lived in the Village on and off for most of her life. Currently she is also working for the State of Michigan in the Veterans Affairs Office.

Please stop by the Village Office to offer a warm welcome to Mary Kay. She will be working part-time in the late afternoon.

As an active member of the Lyons Events Committee Mary Kay is the organizer of the "Island Fest Car Show" each year, and helps with other events through out the summer.

Winter is Still with Us!

SNOW REMOVAL FROM VILLAGE STREETS

Please note that there is NO PARKING on any Village street from 2 am to 7 am daily. This enables the DPW to safely clean the streets. Vehicles found obstructing plow routes **may be towed** at the owner's expense. The side streets are narrow so please do not park close to the pavement that a plow truck cannot safely clean the street. On dead end streets the plow truck needs the whole easement (60 to 66 feet) to turn around, do not park where you will obstruct traffic.

Please be careful passing any snow removal vehicle as these vehicles backup frequently. Reduce your speed when coming close to any snow removal vehicle and DO NOT try to dodge behind a vehicle moving backwards as this is a blind spot for the driver and you may cause an accident. Remind your children to stay away from the banked snow on the road edges and to stand back away from the road at bus stops when the plow truck is coming toward them.

PLEASE

DO NOT PUT YOUR SNOW OUT INTO THE STREETS AND ROADWAYS WHEN YOU ARE CLEANING DRIVEWAYS AND SIDEWALKS, THIS OFTEN CREATES A TRAFFIC HAZARD FOR OTHER RESIDENTS IN THE VILLAGE.

Frigid Weather

To help prevent "Frozen Pipes" during our cold weather, please read through the following check list;

1. Make sure all pipes leading to the meter are protected from freezing either by heat tape & insulation or are located in a heated area.
2. Make sure trailer skirting is secure and in place on all sides so that no wind or drafts can get under the trailer and freeze pipes.
3. Make sure piping in basements and crawlspaces are not subject to wind and drafts though holes, broken windows or breaks in the walls.
4. If your supply line coming into the residents is too shallow and vehicles or pedestrian traffic crosses the line it is possible for the frost to go down deep enough to freeze your water line.

5. Run a faucet at a fast drip during **very** cold temperatures if you have reason to believe your lines may freeze. You may have to run the faucet for 24 hour periods until the danger of freezing is over. It is cheaper to pay for the water than to pay for broken pipes.
6. If your pipes have frozen you will need to thaw them carefully. **Do not use open flames near plastic lines.** Putting a heat source such as a space heater in the area the pipes are in usually does the trick.
7. When you get your water thawed out please check for leaks in your plumbing. If your meter is leaking, CALL the DPW for replacement. If your valves or lines are

leaking, call the DPW to turn your water off at the property line so repairs can be made.

8. **The DPW will respond to shut off your water at any time 24 hours a day for an EMERGENCY.** The DPW cell phone number is 616-902-5838. This is a local call for Lyons you do not have to dial 1. The DPW garage number is 989-855-2529.



LYONS – MUIR LYONS TWP. FIRE DEPART

IS HAVING A

Spaghetti Supper

The Lyons-Muir Lyons Township Fire Department will be having an

ALL YOU CAN EAT

Spaghetti Supper March 15, 2008. 4:00 pm to 7:00 pm

Spaghetti, Garlic Bread, Salad, Dessert & Beverage included.

ADULTS - \$6.00

Age 5-12 - \$4.00

4 and Under - FREE

Come and join in.

Proceeds for Water Rescue Program!

50/50 Raffle



Observations From Downtown

Time really changes things! The last time I sat down by my window to write "observations" it was sunny and warm. Now it is COLD. Back then I observed how cool it is to live in Lyons. This time of year most of us start to think about getting away to warmer places. Good news, March 20 is the first day of spring! We are almost through! As the old saying goes "if you don't like the weather in Michigan, stick around, it will change." This winter even the snow lovers have grown a bit disgusted by the daily shoveling, de-icing, re-shoveling, frozen nose hairs, numb toes, re-shoveling, slipping on the ice, and re-shoveling. Sorry, I got stuck in a loop (just like our weather!) I really have to say though if we have to endure a harsh Michigan winter; Lyons is a pretty neat place to do it. All of the goods and services I listed last time as "cool to have" are even better in the winter because we don't have to drive far to get things.

Have you seen the mist rising off of the river over the dam? Even in the middle of gray winter it is beautiful. I have enjoyed watching the Canadian geese fly over the river in their classic "V" pattern. Their honking reminds me warmer times are coming again. There are also bald eagles around. I can see them circling over the river. They sometimes rest in the trees behind the library. It may sound like I've been out in the cold too long, but I take a lot of comfort from those eagles. Michigan is going through some extreme times right now. Not only our weather, but our finances as well. Just like it is impossible not to be effected by the snow and lack of sun, it is impossible not to feel the economic storm as well. It seems bleak when we already have to drive miles for good jobs to hear even those jobs may pack up and move, gas prices are rising, house values are falling, small towns are struggling just like big ones...Back to the eagles..

When I was younger you only saw bald eagles at the zoo, or way up north. It is really wonderful to see them right from my doorstep. They are "just birds" but their ability to survive is astounding. When things are tight and their food sources are under the cover of snow and ice, they just fly higher so they can see more area. They work harder and cover more ground until the seasons change and dinner comes a bit easier. They don't know that they are the inspiring symbol of our country; they are just doing their thing and living their life. This time of year things can look drab. I like to think they look better from the eagle's perspective. When you drive through town, maybe park for a few minutes. You may see the eagles, or the geese, the mist rising off of the river, or something even better.

I still love living in Lyons, even in the winter. Besides natural beauty, I observed something else during these storms. Neighbors were helping neighbors remove snow. People were checking on their elderly neighbors and friends. Kids were earning money clearing driveways. People were giving each other a push (in a good way). The attitude seems to be "we are all in this together, if we help each other out, we may survive this yet!" I think that may work for the finance thing too. We are all in this together, if we all stick together, we will make it through. We have some good businesses in Lyons. Please shop locally as often as possible. We have a great food pantry, if you need it, use it. If you don't, donate to it. I have been self employed in Michigan for over 20 years so I've seen good and bad climates. I can say for sure it will get better (weather and business)

And that is my observations from down town for this time...

Crystal Rux

Lyons Events Committee

Would like to announce this Summer's Event Dates

Should you be interested in helping with any of the upcoming events please contact Marti Bennett, Event Committee Director at 616-902-5012, or Bryon at 616-902-0045

June 6th & 7th -----Engine Show

June 13th and 14th -----Lyons/Muir Island Fest

August 14th -----Cruise Night

August 14th, 15th & 16th -----Village Wide Yard Sales

September 13th -----Art In The Park

Lyons-Muir Lyons Township Fire Department

Will be offering FREE Smoke Detectors to the Residents of both Lyons and Muir

Please contact Bernie Russell at 989-855-3674 to schedule installations.

**Would you be interested in having a
“Back Yard Barbecue Competition” again this year?**

We had three entries last year, and we all had a very good time, but we need a minimum of EIGHT entries to make it worth while. If you would like to be a part of the competition, contact Jill at the Village Office 989-855-2125.

River Bank Clean Up

April 26, 2008

9:00 am

SUBJECT TO WEATHER CONDITIONS

The Village is looking for volunteers to help with the River Bank and Hazel Devore Island Clean up again this year. This is to get ready for the up coming opening of fishing season. And to get ready for the Summer Events on the Island. Bring some gloves and be ready to get dirty.

The Village and the DDA will provide a lunch for all who assist us in the clean up process. Lunch will be at NOON at the Fire Department. We will be serving a Hot soup, Hot Dogs and a beverage.

Bring some friends, join the fun of gathering the goods, and have lunch on us!

Village Wide Clean Up

May 3, 2008

7:00 am

As you know the Village of Lyons and the Village of Muir will be doing a Village Wide Clean up!

What does this mean for you? This gives you the chance to clean out that back room that has been a catch all for a few years. Have the kids moved out? Did they leave their well used goods behind? Did you do a room make over this winter? Are you about to start one? Do you have an old appliance that needs to be moved out? How about that old chair

that the dog has used once too often? Well all of these items and more can be “PUT TO THE CURB!” The Village will be having Waste Management come once down each street to pick up anything you put out.

HOWEVER, there are some **restrictions** for the clean up day.

1. No Tires
2. No hazardous materials
3. No oil based paint
4. No motor oil, or fuel
5. No items with Freon still in them, it MUST show label of removal
6. No batteries – this includes car; cell phone; and rechargeable

Unregistered Vehicles

The accumulation of unregistered vehicles on private property is a hazard to health safety and welfare of the village residents, and becomes BLIGHT in the neighborhood. Should you want to have these vehicles removed, please call Richard Peavey at 616-527-4164, all cars must have titles and keys before removal.



For Animal Lovers, and Animal Care

With the coming of Spring soon, I would like to take this opportunity to remind you of our Animal Ordinance. We seem to have an abundance of loose animals and we also have an abundance of complaints about these same animals.

The ordinance states that if you have dogs or cats, they must be kept contained in your own yard, and reasonable care shall to be taken to prevent the animal from leaving. When walking your dogs, please be sure to clean up after they have completed their business. Please do not leave the nuisance in your neighbor's yard.

Should your animal be outside in a contained area, or on a restraint they must have shelter and water for the time they are outside.

Lions Club Easter Egg Hunt

Saturday, March 22, 2008

11:00 AM SHARP!!!

**Lyons-Muir Lions Club is sponsoring
their annual**

Easter Egg Hunt at

Hazel Devore Island in Lyons

**Areas will be roped off by Age Groups
To help in safety and fairness and the collecting
of the eggs!**

**This event is OPEN TO ALL CHILDREN
ONE YEAR TO TWELVE YEARS OF AGE!**

**No matter the weather,
The Eggs will be waiting for you!
Bring the kids to the Island and enjoy the show!**

*Happy Easter,
Lyons-Muir Lions Club Members*